

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03581 111848Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
TRSE-00 /069 W
-----120734Z 129021 /13

R 111230Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1853
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC HONOLULU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3581

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER CITES EXTERNAL THREAT IN PUNJAB;
FELICITATES BHUTTO

1. PRIME MINISTER GANDHI TOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE PUNJAB
AND HIMACHAL PRADESH ON MARCH 10 THAT A STRONG AND STABLE
GOVT AT THE CENTER WAS ESSENTIAL TO DEAL WITH EXTERNAL AND
INTERNAL DANGERS AND PRESSURES. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL NEWS
AGENCY SAMACHAR, THE PRIME MINISTER REFERRED TO THE ELECTION
RESULTS IN A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY AND POINTED OUT THAT THE PEOPLE
THERE HAD VOTED FOR A STRONG GOVT. SAMACHAR CITES MRS.
GANDHI AS SAYING THAT IT WAS IN A WAY WELCOME BECAUSE IT WOULD
PROVIDE STABILITY THERE (PAKISTAN), BUT IN VIEW OF THE "THREATS
OF A 1,000 YEAR WAR", ONE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THIS WOULD MEAN FOR
INDIA. THE "TIMES OF INDIA" CORRESPONDENT REPORTS SHE TOLD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03581 111848Z

PUNJABIS: "YOU KNOW THE CONDITIONS ON OUR BORDER", REMINDING THE
PEOPLE OF THE NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR. "AN ELECTION TOOK PLACE THERE
IN WHICH THE MAXIMUM ATTACK WAS ON US. THAT'S WHY IT IS ALL THE
MORE IMPERATIVE TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS MAXIMUM STABILITY AND
STRENGTH HERE AT HOME..." "THE EXPRESS" VERSION REPORTS SHE
SAID THAT ONLY SOMETIME AGO THERE HAD BEEN THREATS OF A
THOUSAND YEAR WAR AGAINST INDIA.

2. THE SAME PAPERS ALSO REPORTED THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO ON ELECTORAL VICTORY. MOST PAPERS PRINTED OR PARAPHRASED THE FULL TEXT WHICH READ: "PLEASE ACCEPT MY HEARTY FELICITATIONS ON THE SUCCESS OF PAKISTAN PEOPLES PARTY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. WE WISH THE PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS UNDER YOUR CONTINUED LEADERSHIP. WE HOPE THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE FURTHER NORMALISED ON THE BASIS OF GOODNEIGHBORLINESS AND MUTUAL COOPERATION".

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SPORADICALLY RAISED THE FOREIGN DANGER ISSUE IN THE COURSE OF HER CAMPAIGN, THIS IS THE MOST EXPLICIT REFERENCE SHE HAS MADE. WE HAVE LONG BELIEVED THAT INDO-PAK RELATIONS MIGHT AT SOME POINT FIGURE IN THE PUNJAB BORDER AREA. WE THINK THE PM'S STATEMENT WAS MOST LIKELY A ONE-TIME REFERENCE, AIMED AT HER AUDIENCE, AND PRESENTED IN AN AREA WHERE IT WOULD HAVE MAXIMUM ELECTORAL IMPACT.
SCHNEIDER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, INTERVENTION, THREATS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE03581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770085-0809
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770369/aaaaciot.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 51c7bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3135819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER CITES EXTERNAL THREAT IN PUNJAB; FELICITATES BHUTTO
TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/51c7bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009